

Agenda – Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee

Meeting Venue:

Committee Room 3, Senedd

Meeting date: 19 October 2023

Meeting time: 09.30 – 13.20

For further information contact:

Lleu Williams, Committee Clerk

0300 200 6565

SeneddCulture@senedd.wales

Pre-meeting registration

(09.15 – 09.30)

1 Introductions, apologies, substitutions and declarations of interest

(09.30)

2 Papers to note

(09.30)

2.1 Welsh Government international relations

(Pages 1 – 2)

Attached Documents:

- Welsh Government international visits – September 2023

2.2 Existence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

(Pages 3 – 5)

Attached Documents:

- Letter from the Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism: Existence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC) – 5 October 2023



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2.3 Cultural Strategy for Wales

(Pages 6 – 37)

Attached Documents:

- Letter from the Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism: Cultural Strategy for Wales – 4 October 2023
 - Annex 1: A New Culture Strategy for Wales: Interim Report 2 – 29 March 2023

2.4 National contemporary art gallery

(Pages 38 – 45)

Attached Documents:

- Letter to the Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport, and Tourism: National contemporary art gallery – 22 September 2023
- Response from the Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism: National contemporary art gallery – 11 October 2023
 - Annex 1: Additional Information Requested: National contemporary art gallery

2.5 Welsh Government Draft Budget 2024–25

(Pages 46 – 57)

Attached Documents:

- Letter from Children, Young People and Education Committee to the Minister for Education and Welsh Language: Welsh Government Draft Budget 2024–25 – 9 October 2023

2.6 Local Authority Library and Leisure Services

(Pages 58 – 59)

Attached Documents:

- Letter from the Local Government and Housing Committee: Local Authority Library and Leisure Services – 12 October 2023

2.7 Ukrainian language in Wales

(Page 60)

Attached Documents:

- Letter from Gemma Cooper: Ukrainian language in Wales – 2 September 2023

2.8 Arts Council of Wales: Investment Review

(Pages 61 – 64)

Attached Documents:

- Letter to the Arts Council of Wales: Arts Council of Wales: Investment Review – 22 September 2023
- Letter from Noni Lewis: Arts Council of Wales: Investment Review – 6 October 2023
- Letter from National Theatre Wales: Arts Council of Wales: Investment Review – 6 October 2023

2.9 Strategy for the Live Performance Industry and the Creative Industries

(Pages 65 – 67)

Attached Documents:

- Letter from National Theatre Wales: Strategy for the Live Performance Industry and the Creative Industries – 13 October 2023

2.10 Office for National Statistics: The future of population and migration statistics in England and Wales

(Page 68)

Attached Documents:

- Letter to the Office for National Statistics (ONS): The future of population and migration statistics in England and Wales – 3 October 2023

2.11 Public service broadcasting in Wales

(Pages 69 – 73)

Attached Documents:

- Letter to Ofcom: Public service broadcasting in Wales – 12 October 2023
- Letter to S4C: Public service broadcasting in Wales – 12 October 2023

3 Motion under Standing Order 17.42 to resolve to exclude the public from items 4, 5, 6, 7, 8 and 10 of the meeting

(09.30)

4 Welsh Government international relations: overseas visits and visitors (May – September 2023)

(09.30 – 09.40)

(Pages 74 – 83)

Attached Documents:

- Research brief: Welsh Government international relations: overseas visits and visitors (June – September 2023)

5 Welsh Government international relations: consideration of the draft annual report 2022–23

(09.40 – 10.20)

(Pages 84 – 97)

Attached Documents:

- Briefing note: Welsh Government international relations
- Draft report: International Relations: Annual Report 2023

6 Consideration of the forward work programme for spring 2024

(10.20 – 10.30)

(Pages 98 – 101)

Attached Documents:

- Forward work programme: Spring and Summer 2024

7 National contemporary art gallery: consideration of the draft report

(10.30 – 11.10)

(Pages 102 – 134)

Attached Documents:

- Briefing note: National contemporary art gallery
- Draft report: National contemporary art gallery

8 Public service broadcasting in Wales: evidence session briefing

(11.10 – 11.40)

(Pages 135 – 154)

Attached Documents:

- Research brief: Public service broadcasting in Wales

Break

(11.40 – 11.50)

9 Public service broadcasting in Wales: evidence session with the Minister of State for Media, Tourism and Creative Industries

(11.50 – 12.50)

- Sir John Whittingdale MP, Minister of State for Media, Tourism and Creative Industries

10 Public service broadcasting in Wales: consideration of evidence

(12.50 – 13.20)

MINISTERIAL INTERNATIONAL ENGAGEMENT

SEPTEMBER 2023

INWARD VISITS

- 08 Sept** **Visit by the Ambassador of Thailand**
The First Minister met with the Ambassador to discuss the economic opportunities between the two countries and key sectors including education, cyber, tech and renewable energy.
- 20 Sept** **Visit by US Ambassador to the UK**
The First Minister met with the Ambassador to discuss the historic partnership between Wales and America and the opportunities to strengthen trade ties across the Atlantic.
- 21 Sept** **Visit by Argentine Ambassador to the UK**
The First Minister met with the Ambassador to discuss trade and cultural links, particularly around the Welsh speaking community in Patagonia.
- 21 Sept** **Visit by Italian Ambassador to the UK**
The First Minister met with the Ambassador to discuss trade links, renewable energy developments, potential tech collaboration and the importance of the Italian community in Wales.

OUTWARD VISITS

- 08 Sept** ***Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport & Tourism's visit to Paris & Bordeaux**
The Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport & Tourism travelled to Paris for the opening ceremony of the Rugby World Cup and to Bordeaux for Wales' first group game against Fiji. During the visit the Deputy Minister met with the Mayor of St Denis at the Olympic and Paralympic Aquatics Centre to discuss preparations, met with the British Council to discuss their work in France, and visited the Musée d'Orsay to discuss the shape of tourism recovery since Covid and the Van Gogh exchange with the National Museum of Wales. Alongside the President of Fiji and the Irish Deputy Ambassador, the Deputy Minister also met with Deputy mayors of Bordeaux for Tourism and International Relations, and leaders from the Bordeaux wine industry, to discuss plans for sustainable tourism and developments in the wine industry. A joint A
- 15 Sept** **Minister for Economy's visit to Atlanta, Georgia and Birmingham**
The Minister for Economy travelled to Alabama to Atlanta, Georgia and Birmingham, Alabama to promote our economic ties and strengthen our unique cultural bonds. The visit included the signing of an International Friendship Pact between Wales and Birmingham, and meetings with businesses and economic institutions from the region.
[Written Statement: Ministerial Overseas Visit to the USA \(3 October 2023\) | GOV.WALES](#)

23 Sept

***Minister for Finance & Local Government visit to Lyon**

The Minister for Finance & Local Government travelled to Lyon to undertake a programme of events to promote Welsh culture and products ahead of Wales' match against Australia in the group stages of the Rugby World Cup. The Minister attended a Wales Arts International showcase of cultural talent; met with the President of French company, Bocard, which opened its first UK operation in Broughton last year; met with the Australian Sports Minister to highlight Wales' approach to using sport as a lever for developing meaningful international relationships, and hosted a food and drink showcase in partnership with Hybu Cig Cymru, Food Innovation Wales and Welsh food and drink companies.

***Note:**

A Written Statement covering the ministerial visits to the Rugby World Cup will publish following the First Minister's return from Nantes on 08 October.



Ein cyf/Our ref: DB-PO-0328-23

Delyth Jewell MS

Chair

Culture, Communication, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee

SeneddCulture@senedd.wales

5 October 2023

Dear Delyth,

Existence of Reinforced Autoclaved Aerated Concrete (RAAC)

Thank you for your letter of 18 September which seeks clarification on, and implications of, the confirmation of existence of RAAC in cultural and sporting venues across Wales.

As you have noted, St David's Hall is currently closed whilst further investigations take place. We continue to recommend that existing guidance from the Institution of Structural Engineers is used to investigate and assess the presence of RAAC in public buildings. Its supplementary guidance published this year includes advice on assessing risk, remediation and managing where RAAC is found to be present.

In terms of your comment regarding Amgueddfa Cymru and the National Library of Wales, these are Arm's Length Bodies, and it is therefore their responsibility to assess the existence of RAAC in their buildings and any related risks. I note that you will be writing to them separately however, last month, colleagues at the National Library of Wales confirmed that a full and thorough site survey has been carried out and that there is no RAAC installed in the library buildings.

Amgueddfa Cymru officers also carried out an initial assessment of their sites last month. They have informed my officials that most of their buildings were not built within the period concerned. They are currently focusing on the areas they have identified as having a small risk and they are being assessed as a priority. Colleagues at the Museum will be updating my officials on the outcome of these further investigations. I would expect any concerns about risks to the national collections to be raised at this point.

Arts Council Wales (ACW) has confirmed with Theatr Clwyd that there are no issues in relation to RAAC in the building. This is the largest capital project it is currently involved in funding. ACW has prepared a single question survey which is being sent to all arts venues

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Rydym yn croesawu derbyn gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg. Byddwn yn ateb gohebiaeth a dderbynnir yn Gymraeg yn Gymraeg ac ni fydd gohebu yn Gymraeg yn arwain at oedi.

We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

asking them to confirm their status in relation to RAAC and any perceived remedial costs. This is due to be circulated in October and ACW will share the results back with Welsh Government in order to provide specific advice. The Head of Capital Projects in WG Culture Division is aware that ACW is collecting this information.

Sport Wales has confirmed that RAAC is not present at its National Centres in Sophia Gardens and Plas Menai.

Across my portfolio, officials have also contacted all local museums who take part in the Museum Accreditation scheme. The 24 responses received (four from local authority run museums, the remainder from independent, regimental and university run museums) covered approximately 30 sites. None reported RAAC in any of their buildings.

A desk top review of the buildings and structures at Cadw sites was undertaken by Cadw's in-house conservation team, in early September. The review identified a small number of sites for further investigation, this further investigation is now largely complete. Cadw have one remaining site where details of the construction are still actively being determined but the risk of RAAC having been used is considered low.

In respect of your question regarding wider public sector buildings, the Welsh Government has set up a cross-government group to oversee its response to this complex issue, affecting buildings across the public sector – including Leisure Centres. Ystadau Cymru, which encourages excellence in active management of the Welsh public sector estate through strategic collaboration and good practice guidance, has issued a survey to identify RAAC in public buildings following the recent information about RAAC in the English school estate from the UK Department for Education on 31 August. This survey captures buildings within my Ministerial remit.

This is a two-stage process:

- Firstly, gathering summary information so we have a clearer picture of what work has been done and what needs to be done to ensure all of our public estate remains safe. This information will include establishing when RAAC surveys or inspections were last undertaken; the results of those surveys and information about the extent and type of properties where RAAC might be or has been found to be present. This information was requested by 15 September, so that we had an initial high-level assessment of RAAC in public buildings in Wales.
- The second stage will take the form of a request for more detailed information on each property where RAAC has been identified or suspected to be present, which will include the property's use for example offices, theatres, leisure facilities. This information will be available within 28 days. It will then be analysed to determine what work needs to be undertaken. To date based on the returns from LA's, officials have not been specifically advised of RAAC in leisure centres.

As with all health and safety risks, the responsibility for any risks and costs associated with RAAC rests with the building owners and/or estate owners, landlords and/or those responsible for managing the premises. This includes the costs associated with identification and management of RAAC in their premises, any surveys and structural engineers to investigate the presence and condition of RAAC. Whilst there are currently no plans for a support fund, The Welsh Government provides ongoing investment in the public estate through strategic capital programmes such as the Sustainable Learning for Communities Programme and the NHS All Wales Capital programme.

I hope that you will find this information helpful.

Yours sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read 'Dawn Bowden', with a stylized, cursive script.

Dawn Bowden AS/MS

Dirprwy Weinidog y Celfyddydau, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth
Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism

Agenda Item 2.3

By virtue of paragraph(s) vii of Standing Order 17.42

Document is Restricted

Document is Restricted

**Culture, Communications, Welsh Language,
Sport, and International Relations Committee**

22 September 2023

Dawn Bowden MS

Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport, and Tourism

Welsh Government

Via Email

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Inquiry into the National Contemporary Art Gallery for Wales

Thank you for appearing at the Committee's meeting on Thursday, 14 September 2023, to give evidence for our inquiry into the National Contemporary Art Gallery for Wales. During the meeting, you agreed to provide the Committee with the following additional information:

- With reference to phase two of the project, confirmation of what amount of new public exhibition space in square meters will be created, in addition to what is currently provided by the dispersed network of galleries
- The website traffic information collated from users accessing the digital art collection website, Celf ar a Cyd, since its launch in June 2023.

We look forward to your response in due course and would be happy to receive any additional information you may wish to share of relevance to our inquiry.

Yours sincerely,



Delyth Jewell MS

Committee Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.



Ein cyf/Our ref: DB-PO-0334-23

Delyth Jewell MS
Chair
Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, International Relations Committee
Welsh Parliament

11 October 2023

Dear Delyth,

I would like to thank members of the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport and International Relations Committee for their invitation to attend the inquiry into the Welsh Government's plans for a National Contemporary Art Gallery for Wales (NCAGW), on Thursday 14 September 2023.

Following my attendance, I agreed to provide the Committee with further information in the following areas.

1. The square footage of the gallery space associated with the dispersed/distributed model, broken down by gallery across the nine sites.
2. The data Celf ar y Cyd has been reporting on users and access and updated information on the number of items digitised and the profile for completion of the project by 31 March 2025.

The project team have now collated the attached information in response to the requests made.

I will continue to keep the Committee informed of progress as the project continues to develop and deliver the NCAGW gallery network on Wales.

Yours sincerely,

Dawn Bowden AS/MS
Dirprwy Weinidog y Celfyddydau, Chwaraeon a Thwristiaeth
Deputy Minister for Arts, Sport and Tourism

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We welcome receiving correspondence in Welsh. Any correspondence received in Welsh will be answered in Welsh and corresponding in Welsh will not lead to a delay in responding.

Additional Information Requested at CCWLSIR Committee Session on NCAGW with the Deputy Minister for Arts, Sports and Tourism on 14 September 2023

During the above Ministerial evidence session CCWLSIR Committee requested additional information relating to the national Contemporary Art Gallery for Wales:

1. The square footage of the gallery space associated with the dispersed/distributed model, broken down by gallery across the nine sites.
2. The data Celf ar y Cyd has been reporting on users and access and updated information on the number of items digitised and the profile for completion of the project by 31 March 2025.

The following information has been provided in response to the request made.

1 Gallery Space

Currently there is insufficient high quality exhibition space specifically for the complex requirements of contemporary art. The total space requirement will be:

- Between 2,000 - 3,000 square metres (21,528 - 32,292 sq ft) of temporary exhibition space in addition to the spaces available in existing national collection venues (Amgueddfa Cymru and National Library of Wales).

These business needs are reflected in Spending Objective 2 of the Outline Business case:

To ensure provision of 2,000-3,000 square metres of permanent or temporary exhibition space across Wales that comply UKRG standards to display a Welsh national collection of contemporary art and find innovative ways to display contemporary art in outdoor settings.

The Table 1 below sets out the most recent estimates per venue produced under the recent venue audits (August 2023):

Table 1 – Dispersed Model – Gallery Space Breakdown

<u>NCAGW Area Breakdown</u>		
NCAGW gallery space provision following capital investment to comply with GIS		
Benefit: 2,000 - 3,000 square metres of permanent or temporary exhibition space		
Venue	Area (m2)	Note
Aberystwyth Arts Centre	235	The arts centre gallery makes extensive provision for Welsh speaking communities and has an excellent curatorial, learning and public engagement programme.
Glynn Vivian	728	Glynn Vivian Art Gallery in Swansea has a ground-breaking curatorial, learning and public engagement programme. It works internationally and can provide exciting opportunities for the future.
Mostyn	728	MOSTYN Gallery in Llandudno has a strong UK and international profile as well as providing exciting engagement programmes locally and regionally.
Oriel Davies	204	Oriel Davies has extensive UK wide partnerships and a strong track record of working with collection partners. It has an excellent curatorial reputation and works extensively in surrounding communities.
Oriel Myrddin	90	Oriel Myrddin in Carmarthenshire has an excellent reputation for delivering contemporary art exhibitions and educational activities locally and in the region.
Oriel Plas Glyn-y-Weddw	137	This unique social enterprise on the Llyn Peninsula has recently undergone a curatorial review that leaves it well positioned to offer strong Welsh language programmes and engagement activities.
Ruthin Craft Centre	241	Ruthin has an excellent curatorial profile for craft in Wales, the UK and internationally. Already experienced in collaboration and partnership curatorial programmes and wider community engagement.
Storiell	92	Storiell in Bangor has an excellent curatorial practice which delivers excellent work to Welsh speaking communities locally and regionally.
Newport	N/A	Newport Museum and Art Gallery are enthusiastic participants of the NCAGW distributed model and it maintains an important strategic position geographically. The challenges around its capacity and the wider building means that a different approach is needed. This has resulted in an innovative curatorial approach using the diversity of Newport City as a wider location with a particular focus on hosting NCAGW collections digitally and in other exciting new ways with the potential to reach a very wide audience. The diverse demographics of Newport bring additional benefits to the project.
Total	2,455	(26,425 square feet)

2 Celf Ar Y Cyd

To understand the basic usage of the Celf ar y Cyd website, we are currently collating data on the following areas as previously stated:

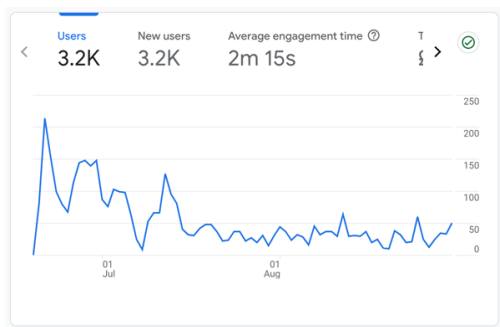
- Number of users (new vs returning)
- User engagement (time on site/page, click-throughs, scrolls)
- Traffic sources (paid vs non-paid referrals, organic search, direct traffic etc)
- User by country (incl. language)
- User activity over time (visitor trends)
- Page and screen viewing figures.

We are currently familiarising ourselves with the new iteration of Google Analytics platform which has only recently been implemented. We will be looking to gather more targeted data in the future. However, we do not gather any user-identifiable data, so are unable to distinguish between educational users and standard users at present. Other user demographics and cohort data are only distinguishable to a certain level of detail offered by users through their browser/device settings. Analytics from June 2023 (launch) to 31st of August 2023 with summaries:

Visitor figures

Approximately 5000 total visitors to the sites since launch to August 31st. Average engagement time shows how long people are spending time on each page they visit on the site:

Celfarycyd.wales (En)

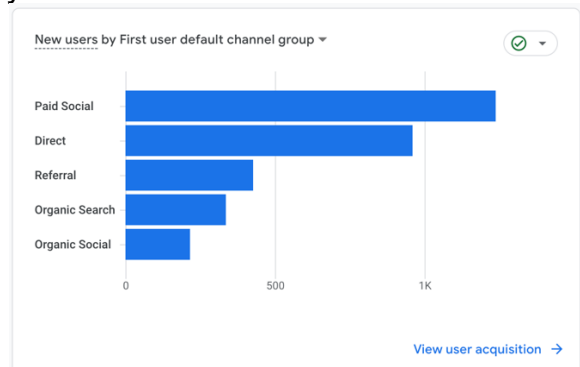
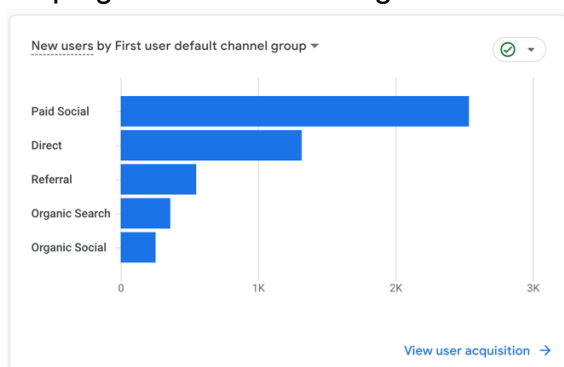


Celfarycyd.cymru (Cy)



Traffic sources

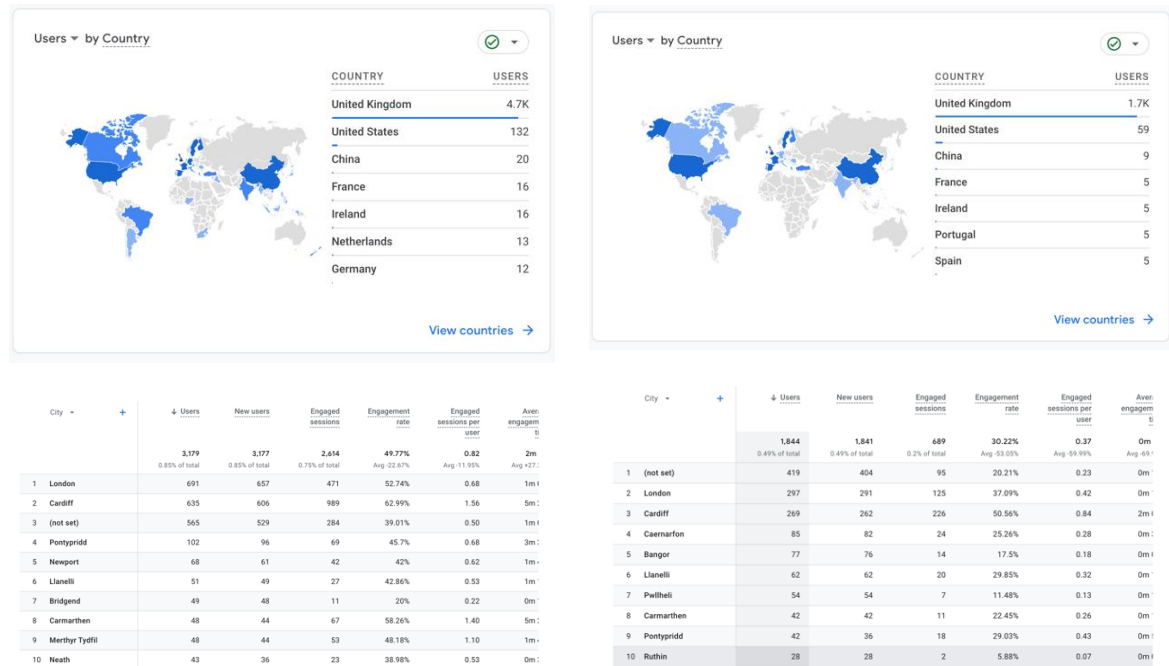
Initially, a high proportion of users were brought to the site by paid social marketing campaigns which ran through June and July.



After paid social campaigns ended, referral links and organic search (Google searches etc) have become the main sources of traffic (see most recent August 2023 monthly report)

User Demographics

We can see users reach the site through various geographical regions showing the worldwide reach of the site, along with the breakdown of users by city location:



Page and screen viewing figures

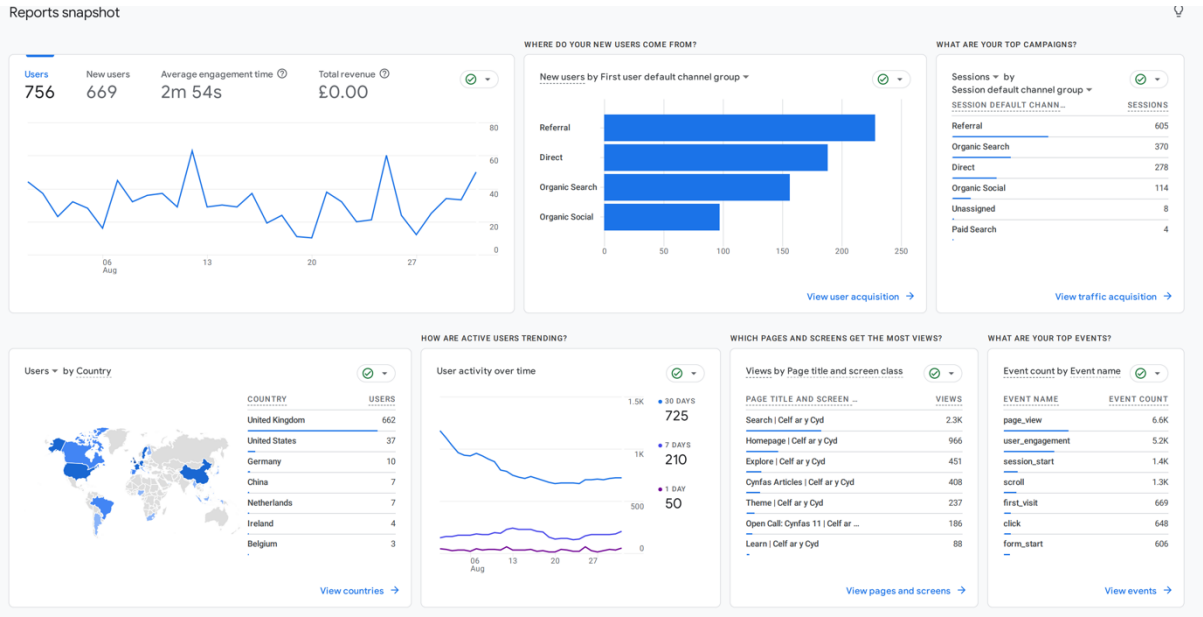
In terms of content, we can analyse the most viewed pages (see below), along with how many people viewed them and for how long. In future, more targeted statistics will be gathered for most viewed artworks and articles.

Page title and screen class	↓ Views	Users	Views per user	Average engagement time	Event count
	26,516	5,023	5.28	1m 37s	12,392
	1.74% of total	1.35% of total	Avg: 29.05%	Avg: 8.43%	0.3% of total
1 Search Celf ar y Cyd	7,133	438	16.29	4m 45s	6,523
2 Homepage Celf ar y Cyd	4,801	2,688	1.79	0m 23s	1,793
3 Hafan Celf ar y Cyd	2,163	1,707	1.27	0m 05s	565
4 Explore Celf ar y Cyd	1,864	520	3.58	0m 50s	553
5 Thema Celf ar y Cyd	1,113	353	3.15	1m 10s	328
6 Cynfas Articles Celf ar y Cyd	799	235	3.40	1m 30s	232
7 Chwilio Celf ar y Cyd	707	66	10.71	3m 31s	186
8 About Us Celf ar y Cyd	359	225	1.60	0m 39s	163
9 Learn Celf ar y Cyd	290	116	2.50	0m 37s	64
10 Thema Celf ar y Cyd	270	69	3.91	1m 15s	89

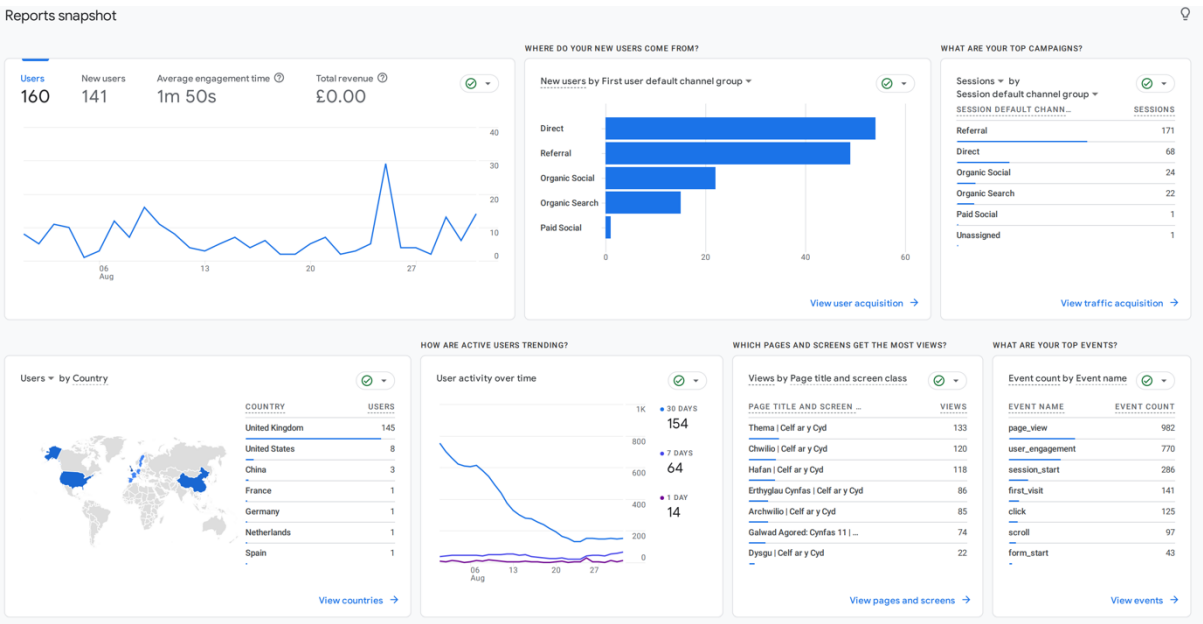
Page title and screen class	↓ Views	Users	Views per user	Average engagement time	Event count
	4,557	1,844	2.47	0m 31s	12,392
	0.3% of total	0.49% of total	Avg: 39.99%	Avg: 49.99%	0.3% of total
1 Hafan Celf ar y Cyd	2,163	1,707	1.27	0m 05s	6,523
2 Chwilio Celf ar y Cyd	707	66	10.71	3m 31s	1,793
3 Thema Celf ar y Cyd	270	69	3.91	1m 15s	565
4 Archwilio Celf ar y Cyd	238	88	2.70	0m 33s	553
5 Erthygliau Cynfas Celf ar y Cyd	137	50	2.74	1m 16s	328
6 Galwad Agored: Cynfas 11 Celf ar y Cyd	74	48	1.54	0m 54s	232
7 Amdanion Ni Celf ar y Cyd	70	52	1.35	0m 27s	186
8 Dysgu Celf ar y Cyd	67	32	2.09	0m 30s	163
9 OGGC Celf ar y Cyd	26	20	1.30	0m 43s	64
10 Codi'r Llen ar Gaffael: ysgrifennu labell, cadwraeth a mynd yn groes (r'graw - cipolwg y tu ôl i'r llen) Celf ar y Cyd	25	12	2.08	0m 27s	89

Most recent Analytics report (1st-31st August, 2023)

Celfarycyd.wales (en)



Celfarycyd.wales (cy)



Digitisation Report as of 14/09/2023

Total number of works digitised since March 2021: 10,338

Additional figures:

- Total number of artworks on the website: 11,945
- Total number of relevant artworks digitised before March 2021 and included on website: 1,607
- Total number of digital images: 31,066 (as of Sept 14, 28,202 digital images now have copyright clearance)
- Total number of digital images on the website: 36,716

Amgueddfa Cymru digitisation profile/trajectory up to March 2025: minimum of 16,000 images of artworks will be digitised.

The National Library of Wales has been scoping the collections items that are to be included in the Celf ar y Cyd website as well as conducting preliminary work on copyright clearance. The digitisation work is currently being planned and the total number of items to be digitised has been confirmed and can be profiled as follows:

Total 3,780 digitised items scoped which include:

- 250 Framed Works
- 3,500 Works on Paper
- 30 Sculptures

These works will be digitised between November 2023 and March 2025. The final profile is still to be finalised. The number of items and the resources available have been aligned.

**Children, Young People
and Education Committee**

Jeremy Miles MS
Minister for Education and Welsh Language

9 October 2023

Welsh Government Draft Budget 2024-25

Dear Jeremy,

As last year, we would like written information to support our scrutiny of the Welsh Government's Draft Budget 2024-25. The annex to this letter sets out in detail the information that we would like to receive.

I would be grateful to receive the written information no later than 19 December 2023. I note that the Welsh Government intends to publish the Draft Budget on 19 December 2023. While we usually ask for the written information a few days after the publication of the draft budget, due to the planned publication date of the draft budget, we are asking for this information on the same day. To help alleviate some of the issues in preparing the written evidence and provide you with the maximum time possible to prepare the submission we are issuing our request earlier in the autumn term. Please contact my clerks if you are concerned about meeting our proposed deadline in light of the budget timetable.

Given the shared interest across committees in some of the areas listed in the annex to this letter, I have copied in the chairs of the Economy, Trade and Rural Affairs Committee and the Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee.

Yours sincerely,



Jayne Bryant MS

Chair

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Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Annex A: Request to the Minister for Education and Welsh Language regarding the CYPE Committee's Draft Budget scrutiny 2024-25

Cross-cutting areas

Transparency of budget presentation

As in previous years, we request a clear, transparent explanation of changes to the overall Education and Welsh Language MEG in 2024-25, from 2023-24, including both a comparison with the actual budget in addition to any revised baseline which is used. We would also appreciate a summary of the key changes between 2023-24 and 2024-25.

If a revised baseline is used, we request a breakdown of amounts which have been removed from or added to the 2023-24 budget and an explanation in each case of why it is deemed appropriate to use the revised baseline rather than the actual budget set in 2023-24 for comparisons.

For significant changes to budget lines, we request an explanation of whether money is being taken from/returned to central reserves or allocated from/to other budget lines either within or outside the MEG.

Commentary on Actions and detail of Budget Expenditure Line (BEL) allocations

We request commentary on each of the Actions within the 2024-25 Education and Welsh Language MEG, including an analysis and explanation of significant changes since the 2023-24 First Supplementary Budget (June 2023). In the past, this has been provided in an annex – last year it was Annex B.

We also request a breakdown of the 2024-25 Education and Welsh Language MEG by Action, and Budget Expenditure Line (BEL), with Final Budget 2023-24 allocations, First Supplementary Budget 2023-24 allocations, forecast 2023-24 outturns, and 2022-23 final outturns all included. If indicative budgets are being set beyond 2024-25, we request details of those as well.

If the Welsh Government uses a revised baseline budget for comparative purposes, we request that the actual 2023-24 First Supplementary Budget allocations are also presented alongside 2024-25 draft budget allocations as well as an explanation of the reasons for the re-calculation of the baseline (as mentioned earlier).

Education priorities and other strategic priorities

Information on how the Education and Welsh Language MEG aligns with, and is prioritised according to, the Welsh Government's relevant priorities and key objectives, including:

- An updated assessment from the Minister on the extent to which he believes the Education and Welsh Language MEG contains the resources necessary to deliver Welsh Government priorities and key objectives,
- Information on any ongoing negotiations with the Minister for Finance and Local Government to maximise the level of resources available for education, including funding for schools' core budgets through the Local Government Settlement.
- Details of how allocations to and within the Education and Welsh Language MEG align with the Programme for Government and the Co-operation Agreement.
- Whether, and if so how, the Minister intends to target resources at addressing any cross-cutting themes or priorities across the MEG as a whole, for example any remaining activity to recover from the pandemic, the cost of living, tackling the negative impact of disadvantage on learners' outcomes, the Welsh language, giving effect to children's rights and supporting learners with their physical, emotional and mental health.

Children's rights and other cross-cutting considerations

In line with assessing whether 'due regard' has been given to article 4 of the UNCRC and the Welsh Government's duties under the Rights of the Child and Young Persons (Wales) Measure the Committee, we request:

- The overall Children's Rights Impact Assessment for this draft Education and Welsh Language MEG for 2024-25, which sets out how children's rights are put into effect in these budget allocations, with reference to specific articles in the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child as relevant.
- If a specific CRIA has not been undertaken, the reasons for this.
- A copy of any alternative integrated impact assessment as well as assurances that this assessment demonstrates that the duty of "due regard" to the United Nations Convention on the Rights of the Child has been exercised.
- Details and/or examples of any changes made to initial allocations within the Education and Welsh Language MEG following considerations of children's rights, equalities, sustainability, the Welsh language, or the Wellbeing of Future Generations (Wales) Act 2015 as a result of impact assessments, or where these assessments have had a direct influence on the setting of budgets.

Costs of legislation

- Details of allocations within the 2024-25 budget intended for the implementation of the Curriculum and Assessment (Wales) Act 2021 and associated qualifications reform.
- Details of allocations for implementing the Additional Learning Needs and Education Tribunal (Wales) Act 2018 and the wider ALN Transformation Programme.
- Details of allocations within the 2024-25 budget intended for the implementation of the Tertiary Education and Research (Wales) Act 2022.
- Information on the financial impact of any relevant UK Parliament legislation.
- Financial implications in 2024-25 of any relevant subordinate legislation.

Impact of the COVID-19 pandemic

- Information on any remaining impact of the pandemic on the Education and Welsh Language MEG in 2023-24 and any ongoing implications in 2024-25, including an update on budget arrangements for meeting these, for example whether the “Recruit, Recover, Raise Standards (RRRS)” programme is continuing in 2024-25..
- Details and breakdown of the funding allocated for the education sector’s response to the pandemic, in 2022-23, plus any allocation in 2024-25 (essentially an update to paragraphs 1.6.5-1.6.6 of last year’s paper).

Impact of Brexit

- An update on whether there are any specific financial implications for the 2024-25 Education and Welsh Language MEG from the UK’s withdrawal from the EU, and any allocations made to mitigate these.

Impact of cost of living pressures on delivery of education services

- An update on the implications of cost of living pressures and high energy prices on the operational delivery of education institutions – across early years, schools, colleges, universities and training providers.

Budget monitoring and the current financial context

- Information on the processes in place for monitoring budgets throughout the year, identifying potential deficits and surpluses, and taking remedial action or allocating additional funds to cover any shortfalls, particularly in light of the pandemic.

- The implications for the Education and Welsh Language MEG of the issues referred to in the First Minister's statement of 9 August 2023 and reports of savings needing to be made in this financial year.
- Details of any changes to the 2023-24 Education and Welsh Language MEG that are already anticipated in the Second Supplementary Budget.
- The implications for the Education and Welsh Language MEG of the UK Government's Autumn Statement 2023.

Specific areas

Funding for school budgets

- An explanation of how the Welsh Government has prioritised funding for schools in the 2024-25 Draft Budget (in both the Finance and Local Government MEG and the Education and Welsh Language MEG) and taken account of the Sibietta review of school spending in its approach to setting this budget.
- An update on any work the Welsh Government is carrying out to consider amendments to the School Funding (Wales) Regulations 2010.
- The Minister's perspective on the level of school budget reserves, in the context of the 31 March 2023 data due to be published in late October 2023.

Funding for school improvement

- An explanation of how the Draft Budget 2024-25 supports school improvement and raising standards of education.
- Details of the Regional Consortia School Improvement Grant (RCSIG) allocations in 2023-24, broken down by objective and/or funding description (or whichever headings are appropriate) – essentially an update to Annex D of last year's paper.
- Details of how much RCSIG was paid to each consortium and/or local authority in 2023-24.
- Information on the Education Improvement Grant element of the RCSIG and the review that was underway when the budget was discussed last year.

The cost of living and reducing the impact of deprivation on educational outcomes

- Information on how resources within the Education and Welsh Language MEG are being used to meet the Welsh Government's long-term commitment to reduce the impact of deprivation on educational outcomes.
- A breakdown of the "Tackling barriers to attainment" BEL for the Pupil Development Grant (PDG) and the School Essentials Grant and an update of how eligibility for these is assessed, given the main qualifying criteria (eligibility for free school meals) is moving to universal provision in primary schools.
- Information on how resources within the Education and Welsh Language MEG are being used to support learners in post-16 education with the impact of cost of living pressures, and to address the impact of deprivation on outcomes (including, for example, through additional hardship funding for providers, or through existing student support funding such as the Education Maintenance Allowance).
- The costs of the expansion of free school meals in 2023-24, 2024-25 and future years, and an update on the schedule for extending FSM throughout all primary school age groups.
- A further breakdown of the funding provided to local authorities in 2023-24 for the universal provision of free school meals (UPFSM) and for 2024-25 if known.
- Any other funding within the Education and Welsh Language MEG for initiatives to tackle the cost of living and the deprivation/attainment negative correlation, for example school holiday enrichment/summer of fun/food and fun projects, including an explanation of how these projects and funding streams relate to each other

Education workforce

- Details of budget allocations to finance Initial Teacher Education (ITE) and professional learning for current teachers, including in light of the ongoing implementation of education reforms.
- Information on funding provided by the Welsh Government to the Education Workforce Council.
- Details of any budget provision for meeting the costs of the teachers' pay award for academic year 2023/24 including a breakdown between the 2023-24 and 2024-25 financial years and the respective mechanisms used (whether direct grant or incorporated into the local government settlement).
- Information on any funding to support policy regarding the supply teaching workforce.

- Information on funding to support the implementation of the Curriculum for Wales, including professional learning for the workforce.

Emotional and mental health of children and young people

- Budget provision from the Education and Welsh Language MEG in 2024-25 for the whole-school/system approach to emotional and mental health.
- Details of funding from the Health and Social Services MEG to complement work in schools on this area.
- Information on any budget provision to support the emotional and mental health of young people in post-16 education.
- Budget provision for the action plan and wider response to tackle peer on peer sexual harassment among learners.

Pupil absence

- Information on any specific budget provision to address rates of pupil absence or an identification of which budget lines support such work more generally.

Sport and physical activity

- Information on how the Education and Welsh Language MEG supports the provision of sport and physical activity for children and young people, whether inside or outside school, and how this relates to any funding in the Health and Social Services MEG such as for Healthy Weight, Healthy Wales.

Support for Minority Ethnic and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller learners

- Details of funding to support the education of Minority Ethnic and Gypsy, Roma and Traveller learners in 2024-25 and how this is being distributed (whether this is still part of the Education Improvement Grant).

Additional Learning Needs

- An updated assessment of the pressures facing local authorities, schools, and colleges in delivering current SEN/ALN provision, the impact of additional funding in previous years and whether further additional funding will be provided in 2024-25.

- Information on funding provision for the implementation of the 2018 Act, including an updated assessment of whether the ALN reforms are proving to be cost-neutral.
- The latest position on funding for the training of educational psychologists in Wales and the grant funding arrangement with Cardiff University.

Estyn

- Details of Estyn's core budget allocation for 2024-25 from the Finance and Local Government MEG and details of any additional funding from the Education and Welsh Language MEG for Estyn's role in education reforms.

Qualifications

- Details of funding allocated to Qualifications Wales in 2024-25 and details of any additional funding for its work on qualifications reform in the context of the new Curriculum for Wales.

Welsh-medium education

- Details of budget provision to support the Welsh Government's policies for Welsh-medium education, including proposed legislative reform and the education sector's role in meeting the Cymraeg 2050 target of one million Welsh speakers.
- Information on funding allocated for enhancing the Welsh in education workforce..

Early years education and childcare

- Whether the funding arrangements in place in previous years to support the harmonisation of funding rates in early years education and childcare continued in 2023-24 and are continuing in 2024-25.
- Details of any other funding from the Education and Welsh Language MEG to support the non-maintained sector's delivery of early years education and the Curriculum for Wales (recognising that childcare is not in this Minister's portfolio).

Youth work

- Details of how the 2024-25 Education and Welsh Language MEG supports statutory and voluntary youth services and budget provision for meeting the Programme for Government commitments in respect of strengthening youth services.
- Details of how the 2024-25 Education and Welsh Language MEG supports the Youth Work Strategy for Wales and the work of the Implementation Board.

Offender learning

- Information on budget provision in 2024-25 and any changes to how this will be spent compared to previous years.

Further education, sixth forms and adult community learning

- Details of the complete 2023-24 allocations to further education colleges, to include the amounts of all components of the allocation (i.e. full-time, part-time, part-time allowance, deprivation, sparsity and Welsh-medium allowances, maintenance allowance and the Adult Learning Wales adjustment).
- Details of any hypothecated funding to further education institutions or Sixth Forms beyond their usual core grants.
- Details of any funding provided in the 2024-25 budget for achieving pay parity and/or to meet any pay award to further education institutions and Sixth Forms, including an explanation as to the sufficiency of the funding to meet in full any agreed pay award / pay equivalency over the period of this budget.
- The allocation for Adult Community Learning .
- The complete 2022-23 and 2023-24 programme values used in the calculation of FE and Sixth Form funding.

Higher education, and post-16 student financial support

- Details of the Commission for Tertiary Education and Research (CTER) allocation, including details of any hypothecated funding, or funding which is intended for specific activities including mental health and student well-being.
- Details of any 2024-25 allocation intended for the delivery of degree apprenticeships and if it is intended to be used to recruit new apprentices or to teach out existing apprentices.
- Details of any capital funding to be made available to CTER, including any conditions to be placed on it by the Welsh Government.
- Details of any contingencies / reserves / non-allocated funds within any of the 2024-25 tertiary education related BELs, including the BELs within the post-16 Learner Support Action; details of how the funds are / can be deployed; and details of any deployment of them during 2023-24.
- **Grants:** A table showing the 2022-23 outturn, and forecast expenditure over the following four years (broken down by students studying in Wales and elsewhere in the UK) for:

- Full-time undergraduate (FTUG) Tuition Fee Grant
- FTUG Maintenance Grant
- Part-time undergraduate (PTUG) Tuition Fee Grant
- PTUG Maintenance Grant
- Masters Finance grant element
- Education Maintenance Allowance (EMA)
- Welsh Government Learning Grant (Further Education) (WGLG(FE))
- **Loans provision:** A table showing the 2022-23 outturn, and forecast loan outlay over the following four years (broken down by students studying in Wales and elsewhere in the UK) for:
 - FTUG tuition fee and maintenance loan outlay and Resource Accounting and Budgeting (RAB) charge
 - PTUG tuition fee and maintenance loan outlay and RAB charge
 - Masters Finance loan element outlay and RAB charge
 - Doctoral loan outlay and RAB charge.

Other post-16 education provision

- Details of Personal Learning Account funding
- Details of the Welsh in Education budget including any allocation for the Coleg Cenedlaethol.
- Details of funding for the International Learning Exchange Programme (Taith).

Young Person's Guarantee

- Details of budget provision from the Education and Welsh Language MEG which contributes to the Young Person's Guarantee and how this relates to funding from the Economy MEG.

Capital funding for school and college infrastructure

- Information on budget provision for the Sustainable Communities for Learning programme and progress of the programme to date, including expenditure and numbers of projects completed/approved to date, broken down by Band A and Band B.
- An updated assessment of the implications of the increases to energy prices and the cost of living for the Sustainable Communities for Learning programme, including any impact on the progress and costs of projects.
- The financial implications from the Welsh Government's carbon net zero policies and how this affects the 2024-25 draft budget.

Capital funding for childcare

- Information on capital funding from the Education and Welsh Language MEG for the Childcare Offer and Flying Start programme, including the impact of revised eligibility and entitlement.

Capital funding for the Community Focused Schools initiative

- Information on budget provision for the Community Hubs and Community Learning Centres grant and an update on progress in increasing the community focused nature of education estates and adapting premises for community use.

Agenda Item 2.6

**Y Pwyllgor Llywodraeth Leol
a Thai**

**Local Government
and Housing Committee**

Delyth Jewell MS

Chair

Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and
International Relations Committee

12 October 2023

Dear Delyth

Local Government and Housing Committee inquiry into local authority leisure and library
services

I would like to draw your attention to the debate that is scheduled for Plenary on 18th
October 2023 regarding Local Government and Housing Committee's inquiry into local
authority leisure and library services.

The Welsh Government have also [laid](#) its response to the Committee's report, which may
be of interest for your Committee.

Yours sincerely



John Griffiths MS

Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Senedd Cymru

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Agenda Item 2.7

Correspondence via email from: Gemma Cooper

Dear senedd

On behalf of our cultural support to Ukraine.

"In 2019 the welsh government declared that wales would become the first "nation of sanctuary" a plan endorsed by the United Nations"

Today there is no country in the world that has Ukrainian language, even at a basic level compulsory.

Has the world forgotten about the lessons in history?

Us welsh people haven't and neither will our children. We remember how our treasured language went from 100% speaking to now only around 30%. We understand how hard it is to re build a language we want.

There are children in welsh schools who get a small "punishment" for speaking English at school. To other countries this may seem strange but not to wales who values culture and languages. We remember our own lessons in history and can all say "never again".

Our children have maths lessons. Without a calculator they remember how many days until st David's day. We have build a country full of opportunities, where our children are proud to wear traditional costumes. Where they enjoy eating welsh cakes, competing at Eisteddfods and hearing the tales of wales. Just like how Ukrainians feel about "vyshyvanka day" a celebration day with the same values.

Older children learn about "the welsh not" about how welsh children were punished for speaking their language, even "cool" kids still feel this pain and respond with anger. Just like they respond to the situation in Ukraine.

For these reasons now is our chance to become that "country of sanctuary" it is our chance to show our truly unique welsh values and our strong welsh character to the UN and the rest of the world, to put wales "on the map"

Ukrainian culture and language are very similar to our own. Our alphabets even have the same sounds. I believe we can all work together to create a better cultural experience.

Ukrainians need our leadership just like we need their bravery and inspiration.

This war will be written in history books. It will say how truly brave people stayed United and were prepared to even die for their country's independence. It will be written how people still had high moral while fighting off "the second biggest army in the world" and most importantly it will be written how a country successfully stood up to the values of freedom and dignity for the sake of the future of their children and grandchildren. For the sake of a cultural, traditional and forever free Ukraine.

...how wales was the first "country of sanctuary" to keep the Ukrainian language alive.

From

Gemma Cooper.

Maggie Russell, Chair

Dafydd Rhys, Chief Executive Officer

Arts Council of Wales

Via Email

Arts Council of Wales briefing on the Investment Review 2023

Thank you for appearing at the Committee's meeting on Thursday, 21 September 2023, to provide a briefing on the Arts Council of Wales Investment Review 2023. During the meeting, you agreed to provide the Committee with the following additional information:

- A copy of the investment review offers made to organisations from 2024 onwards.
- A list of funding that has been granted in Blaenau Gwent from all sources.
- A link to the Lancet article about the role of the arts in promoting good health in Wales.

We would also welcome information on what steps the Arts Council will be taking to inform the Senedd more widely about the Investment Review, and the rationale behind the funding decisions made.

We look forward to your response in due course and would be happy to receive any additional information of relevance you may wish to share.

Yours sincerely,



Delyth Jewell MS

Committee Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

I hope you're well?

I'm writing to you in relation to National Theatre Wales and the devastating cut to its funding.

There is no doubt that I am not alone in the shock and disappointment I feel at this decision, as a freelance creative and theatre goer in Wales.

We've had to wait a long time to get our National Theatre in this country and apart from the platform it provides for diverse Welsh voices in the arts, their work has been hugely beneficial to communities throughout the country. National Theatre Wales has given so many opportunities for Wales to explore its identity and diversity through the arts, and as a country we deserve these opportunities to showcase our stories.

I don't dare to guess the logic behind the decision but please could I urge you to ask the questions and do everything in your power to ensure that we get to keep our National Theatre? I did notice that ACW have announced a review of Welsh language theatre which logically should happen with NTW in place.

I appreciate your thoughts and look forward to your response.

Diolch yn fawr

Noni Lewis (R North)

Bilingual Actor, writer and Director

By virtue of paragraph(s) vii of Standing Order 17.42

Document is Restricted

Agenda Item 2.9

Re: Live Performance and Creative Industries Industrial Strategy

Friday, 6th October 2023

Dear Culture, Communications, Welsh Language, Sport, and International Relations Committee,

I am writing to request the committee to examine the urgent necessity for a comprehensive industrial strategy encompassing the Live Performance sector in Wales (including Theatre, Dance, Opera, and Music) as well as the broader Creative Industries.

The substantial and widely beneficial impact of a well-defined and sustained industrial strategy for the Creative Industries in Wales is well documented, showcasing remarkable growth within the sector over the last decade. However, the Live Performance sector in Wales is currently facing a complex, intersectional crisis despite possessing considerable assets in capital infrastructure, human resources and skills, a strong reputation, and a potentially excellent positioning in domestic and international markets.

In this post-pandemic, post-Brexit, and amidst a cost-of-living crisis reality, there are numerous shared challenges and opportunities that could be better addressed through a strategically underpinned partnership between Live Performance and the Creative Industries:

1. **Skills Shortage:** The sector has witnessed a significant exodus of skilled individuals during and after the pandemic. This talent drain is evident across both the creative and technical aspects of the sector and at various career stages. Structural issues within apprenticeships and training, compounded by the small size of many organisations and already stretched administrative structures, have hindered the full utilisation of apprenticeship schemes. Given the well-established talent pipeline from Live Performance to the wider Creative Industries, there exist notable opportunities for more interconnected working to meet shared needs.
2. **Utilising Existing and Potential Capital Assets:** Although there is considerable co-working and asset sharing between the sectors, Live Performance's capacity, infrastructure, and legislative support to attract commercial investment and effectively manage risks for sustained growth significantly lag behind its Creative Industries counterparts. As all large venue-based organisations are having to make fundamental changes to their business models, an interconnected strategic perspective regarding the ongoing potential of capital assets and better cross-sector collaboration would have a substantial impact on the Welsh economy.

3. **Development and Exploitation of Intellectual Property:** A compelling case can be made that all the capital, organisational, and human infrastructure required for a commercial theatre production hub in Wales already exists. However, what is lacking are the strategic and organisational capabilities to attract and manage commercial investment and risk over the medium term. While the live performance sector possesses well-established models for substantial and sustained income generation, project life cycles may span between 5-15 years with the need to manage multiple and variable seven-figure risks over that period. Currently, the live performance sector lacks organisations with the capacity to operate in this manner, and there is no existing framework for the government to invest or support this form of investment, as is the case within the screen and digital media industry. This lack of capacity is also profoundly limiting innovation, particularly in relation to hybrid live and digital forms. Research and development opportunities are being offered through organisations such as Creative Cardiff, however, the Live Performance sector lacks the capacity to respond with agility and flexibility to these offers. This is causing us to fall behind our competitors nationally and internationally in a fast evolving and exceptionally lucrative marketplace to the detriment of both the Digital and Live performance sectors.
4. **Bilingual Talent Development:** While some established Welsh creatives, especially Writers, Directors, and Performers, can move fluidly between Live Performance and the Wider Creative Industries, there is also a considerable loss of talented individuals leaving Wales to seek employment elsewhere in the U.K. or exiting the industry altogether due to being siloed within a single art form. Establishing joined-up talent development initiatives (for example, bringing together television and film to theatre and dance) supported by a combined industrial strategy could have a transformative effect in this area.
5. **Data-Led Audience Development:** The majority of Welsh mid-scale and small-scale venues lack the financial and staffing capacity to perform the type of data-led audience development work that is commonplace across the rest of the U.K. This has a considerable impact on audience numbers and ticket sales, and therefore the commercial viability of touring and theatre production in Wales. A shared investment in this area, accompanied by well-planned evaluation and impact management, could have a transformative effect on Return on Investment (ROI) in production and presentation models nationally.
6. **Green Agenda and Recycling:** While there is sector-leading work being done in both Live Performance and the wider Creative Industries around low and zero carbon producing models, significant inefficiencies persist in storage, recycling, transport, accommodation, and the hire/sharing of technical equipment and infrastructure. Targeted capital investment into key infrastructure supporting national hubs of activity could yield substantial economic and environmental impacts.
7. **International Reach:** Presently, there is clearly evidenced demand for Welsh Live Performance internationally. However, barriers related to financial,

administrative, and human capacity are leaving this demand unmet. By fostering joined-up communications, investment, and more effective resource utilisation, the combined sectors could deliver considerably more impact, both economically and crucially, reputationally. This aligns with the shared responsibility to showcase a vibrant and confident Wales to global partners and audiences.

This letter offers a non-exhaustive overview of the areas that a combined industrial strategy could address. We are experiencing an outdated and artificial barrier between these sectors and I ask that the committee seek evidence and perspectives as to how we may better serve the people of Wales in working in a more fluid and impactful way with the support of government. On behalf of National Theatre Wales and the wider sector, I would be delighted to provide a list of key individuals who could offer their perspectives on the areas outlined in this letter and other relevant opportunities. Over the last 6 months, I have been part of the steering group for an impact study on the combined live and creative industries in the U.K. led by McKinsey. This report explores impact models in some of the areas discussed herein. I would like to extend an invitation to the committee to the report's launch on 27th November and will furnish the committee clerk with further details.

Thank you for your attention to this matter. I look forward to discussing this with you and other colleagues in the collective interest of the continued resilience and impact of these remarkable facets of Welsh culture and society.

Diolch yn fawr.

Yours sincerely,



Lorne Campbell
Artistic Director/Chief Executive.
National Theatre Wales.

Ruth Studley, Director
Jen Woolford, Director
Office for National Statistics (ONS)

Via Email

**Office for National Statistics briefing on the future of population and migration statistics in
England and Wales**

Thank you for appearing at the Committee's meeting on Thursday, 21 September 2023 to provide a briefing on the future of population and migration statistics in England and Wales. During the meeting, you offered to report back to the Committee with the following information after attending the International Census Forum in October 2023:

- Information about how other countries collect data on languages in bilingual countries, such as how they collect data on the French language in Canada;
- Any other information that may fall under the Committee's remit from the Forum.

The Committee would also be interested to know more about the ONS joint work plan with the Welsh Government on reliable data collection relating to the Welsh language. This would include information on how robust data about the Welsh language might be collected in the future using administrative data sampling rather than large scale surveys.

We look forward to your response in due course and would be happy to receive any additional information of relevance you may wish to share.

Yours sincerely,



Delyth Jewell MS
Committee Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.
We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

**Culture, Communications, Welsh Language,
Sport, and International Relations
Committee**

Lord Grade of Yarmouth

Chair

Ofcom

Via Email

12 October 2023

Public Service Broadcasting in Wales

Dear Michael

Thank you for appearing at the Committee's meeting on Wednesday, 4 October 2023, to give evidence for our scrutiny of Public Service Broadcasting in Wales. We would also like to extend our thanks to Kate Biggs and Eleanor Marks who accompanied you for the session. During the meeting, we agreed to contact you with further questions, and these are set out below.

Impact of the Draft Media Bill on broadcasting in Wales

In June 2023, the UK Government published the Draft Media Bill to update broadcasting legislation for the digital age. During our committee session, Eleanor Marks noted:

We like to see them broadcasting in the Welsh language. As it stands at the moment, if the format has included Welsh language, we can regulate that. That may well change with the Bill.

We would be grateful if you could please outline what these proposed provisions would be.

We also welcome Ofcom's recognition of the importance of the Welsh language. Given this, we'd be grateful if you could tell us what other steps Ofcom can take to encourage commercial radio licence holders, who may want to relax existing requirements, to increase or maintain their Welsh language output.

Consideration of the rights to the broadcasting of sports

The Broadcasting Act 1996 gives the Secretary of State for Digital, Culture, Media and Sport the power to draw up a list of sporting events of "national interest". As you will know, this means the

broadcast rights to these events must be offered to the main free-to-air terrestrial broadcasters on “fair and reasonable terms”. We would like to know:

- What assessment Ofcom have made of the relative importance of certain sports (such as rugby) to audiences in Wales.
- How the ability of public service broadcasters to buy sports rights has changed since the current sports rights listing regime was established.

Channel 3 licensing and expenditure

The role of the Channel 3 licence in ensuring that there are a range of media outlets covering current affairs in Wales is vitally important. In the Fifth Senedd, our predecessor Committee noted in a [report on devolution of broadcasting](#) that there “should be a requirement for the Channel 3 licence in Wales to produce a greater proportion of network content in Wales”. We would welcome your views on:

- How Ofcom made the determination regarding the current requirements of the Welsh licence for four hours of news and 90 minutes of non-news programming.
- How the current requirements of the Welsh licence compares with other channel 3 licences across the UK.
- Whether you have made any assessment of the sustainability of this level of programming for the Welsh channel 3 licence.

Moreover, [Ofcom’s Media Nations Wales 2023](#) report shows that in 2022, ITV’s UK network spend in Wales had plummeted to close to 0 per cent of their qualifying UK spend. In recent years, during the pandemic, this figure was above five per cent. We would welcome the following information:

- How you determine what qualifies as a qualifying spend and what this is for Wales.
- Whether you could explain the change that occurred during the Covid-19 pandemic period, as well as outline why this spend has been so low in the years preceding the pandemic.

Ofcom capacity in Wales

During the meeting, we also discussed the capacity of Ofcom’s office in Wales. We noted the significant disparity in staffing numbers based in Wales compared with other Ofcom offices based outside of London. You told us about Ofcom’s intention for 30 per cent of its staff to be based outside of London by 2030. Given this goal, we would like to know what role you see the Welsh office having as you work towards this goal, and how many staff you expect to be based in Wales by 2030.

We look forward to your response in due course and would be happy to receive any additional information you may wish to share of relevance to our scrutiny.

Yours sincerely,



Delyth Jewell MS

Committee Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Rhodri Williams

Chair

Siân Doyle

Chief Executive

S4C

12 October 2023

Public Service Broadcasting in Wales

Dear Rhodri and Siân

Thank you for appearing at the Committee's meeting on Wednesday, 4 October, 2023, to give evidence for our scrutiny of Public Service Broadcasting in Wales. We were grateful for the evidence you provided during our session, and we are writing to request some additional information.

During the meeting, we asked you a number of questions relating to S4C's expenditure in Wales. You noted that all the companies you work with are indigenous to Wales. Your annual report for 2022-23, however, notes the amount you spend outside of Wales has increased from 1 per cent in 2021-22 to 2 per cent in 2022-23. We would be grateful if could outline what is responsible for this increase.

We look forward to your response in due course.

Yours sincerely,



Delyth Jewell MS
Committee Chair

Croesewir gohebiaeth yn Gymraeg neu Saesneg.

We welcome correspondence in Welsh or English.

Correspondence via email from: Rhodri Williams, Chairman, S4C

I wish to update you following recent press reports. On the afternoon of 12 October, Llinos Griffin-Williams, S4C's Chief Content Officer, was dismissed following reported gross misconduct.

I would like to reassure you that S4C's important work in servicing its viewers continues, and we are committed to our 2022-27 Strategy with its aims of providing exciting content in Welsh across a range of platforms, maximising value for money for our audiences.

In the short term, Geraint Evans, Director of Content and Publishing Strategy at S4C, will take on the responsibilities of Chief Content Officer and will lead on the commissioning and publishing with the support of his team.

You are welcome to get in touch should you have any questions, or if you would like to discuss anything.

Yours sincerely,

Rhodri Williams
S4C Chair

Agenda Item 4

By virtue of paragraph(s) vii of Standing Order 17.42

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Agenda Item 5

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Agenda Item 6

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Agenda Item 7

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